

**Water/Wastewater Commissioners’
Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2012**

Present: Robert E. Courage, Chairman
Dale A. White, Vice-Chairman
Michael E. Putnam, Member
David Boucher, Superintendent
Evelyn Gendron

Call to Order:

Chairman Courage called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Appointments:

Mr. Gary Smith, Wright-Pierce, said that the purpose of the eight-day pumping tests on the NPC lot was primarily to see what the water quality would be under long term pumping conditions because the original tests had indicated elevated chlorides due to storm water runoff in the vicinity of the parking lots. Mr. Smith extended his gratitude to Mr. Boucher, Mr. Young and Mr. Jensen for their exceptional assistance and support throughout the testing. He said the pumping test rate was approximately 340 – 350 gallons per minute, or roughly equivalent to 500,000 gallons per day. The water levels stabilized, meaning the water leveled off and didn’t draw down after two days, which he said was exceptional and indicates there is an abundant amount of water on that property. Samples were collected by the Milford Water Department and analyzed by ChemServe. Analysis hand-outs were distributed and reviewed. Mr. Smith said in general, iron decreased over time, with manganese staying level, sodium chloride decreased substantially, and there were no volatile organics from cleaners, gas or toluene, substances which had negatively impacted other wells in Milford years ago. Mr. Smith said the sodium chloride decrease was a main objective. Chairman Courage questioned whether a date in the right-hand column had been mislabeled. Mr. Smith concurred that it should be corrected to read “December 2010”. Mr. Smith explained the safe drinking water parameter for manganese, day/night water temperature highs and lows, and how after a period of time, high quality water from the Souhegan River began to be pulled in, which caused temperature levels to increase in the observation wells. He said that if the pumping had been run for 30 days, or years, as would occur with a normal well, probably 80% - 90% of the water would resemble that of the Souhegan River, minus the bacteria and floating matter which would be filtered out by sand and gravel in the aquifer. He said that it is known that the Souhegan River, which is the source of recharge, is very low in sodium chloride, iron and manganese, and that over time the water will increasingly mirror the water chemistry of the Souhegan River and particularly if improvements, i.e., relocations approximately 400’ downstream, are made to nearby parking lots to avoid storm water runoff.

Mr. Smith said that a single drilled production well would produce approximately 600,000+ gallons a day and the site could support two wells, subject to DES approval and stream flow regulations. Chairman Courage said this would considerably boost Milford’s current well capacity. He explained that Wright-Pierce is currently involved in programs in Rochester and that part of the DES regulations

involves automated stream gauge protections to certain Cocheco River fisheries and other industries. Should the Souhegan River flow drop, the Milford Water Department could reduce flow or stop the water pumping via SCADA. Upon further discussion regarding pumping test results and the conservative approaches historically taken by the NH DES and the EPA, Mr. Smith recommended contacting Mr. Phil Hart, U.S. Geological Survey in Pembroke, to join in discussions with the NH DES regarding the flow models and well production simulation to determine DES support, acknowledging OU1 and OU2 sites are not totally cleaned up yet. He said Mr. Hart had already previously developed a flow model that could be simulated, and that he is recognized by the DES as an expert on this site. Mr. Smith said that if the Milford Water Department were to present to the DES the long term pump test results, the DES may share results of the OU1/OU2 site clean-up activities to date. Chairman Courage said there are a few automobile garages in the vicinity that should be monitored with respect to the wellhead protection district, and to be sure that a plume of contamination that has accumulated over the years doesn't migrate downstream. Superintendent Boucher said typically what the department does is send out a questionnaire and a qualified person goes to meet with the businesses to help them fill out the survey forms and to observe best management practices are being followed. Chairman Courage said Mr. Smith's water tests and results are a screening tool that indicates the Souhegan River is clean and must stay protected. Mr. Smith discussed the additional beneficial screening afforded by installing monitoring or observation wells, and if contamination were to be detected, the municipality would be obligated to report such to the DES & EPA, but not necessarily to clean up the detected contamination, which would not be so nice for the property owner(s). He added that no one is supposed to illegally contaminate groundwater, and that it is possible for contamination to be passed to owners. Vice-Chairman White said upon reviewing the information presented by Mr. Smith, there are no known problems. Chairman Courage said that he is "gun shy" having witnessed the effects of the Savage and Keyes Well contaminations. Mr. Smith will add language to his write-up regarding monitoring wells being a cost-effective, early screening measure. Superintendent Boucher agreed that the monitoring wells should be pursued prior to meeting with the NH DES. Mr. Smith, Mr. Boucher, and the commissioners reviewed the maps for preferential location of monitoring wells and decided an on-site inspection would help to decide the best locations. Upon further discussion, Commissioner Putnam made the motion to proceed with Wright-Pierce recommending the number, location and placement of monitoring wells to check for VOC contaminants. Vice-Chairman White seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Superintendent Boucher will contact NPC for permission to install monitoring wells and will contact Dig Safe. Mr. Smith said he would contact Superintendent Boucher soon to schedule the next steps.

Decisions:

Approval of Final Minutes –Vice-Chairman White made the motion to approve the minutes of the commissioners' meeting held October 9, 2012 as amended. Chairman Courage seconded the motion. Commissioner Putnam abstained due to not having been present at the October 9th meeting.

Sewer Abatement Request – 374 Main Street – Mrs. Jessica Hardwick, Water Utilities Billing Clerk, explained that a final meter read had been taken prior to the recent sale of this property, which has service connections to Wilton water and Milford sewer. The property was billed twice in error during one billing cycle. Vice-Chairman White made the motion to approve this sewer abatement request in the amount of \$73.57 and is based on the recommendation of Superintendent Boucher. The amount of usage to be abated is 1,872 cubic feet. Commissioner Putnam seconded the motion.

Curtis Well – Scope of Work – Superintendent Boucher said not much has changed since the previous commissioners’ meeting. There was a conference call held earlier today among himself, Mr. Jim Young, Water Foreman, Mr. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce, and Mr. Scott Hinkley regarding Curtis Well contract specifications. He said he reviewed the contract and suggests two changes: one to correct an incomplete sentence, and the second being the addition of language indicating that any wiring to be replaced is kept. Mr. Hinkley, in charge of instrumentations, will write “Section Two” which will cover SCADA interface installations in the building. He said Section Two should be received within two or three days, and if the commission has no issues with the information in Section One that Mr. Berg can proceed with preparing the bid document even though the second part is not yet complete, as it is a sub-part of the document. Vice-Chairman White asked which companies would be submitted to Mr. Berg to distribute the bid specifications. Mr. Boucher said he recalled the previous list as including G. L. LaFlamme, E. L. Flowers, Blaise, and Wilson Technologies, but that he would review the list and email the companies to the commissioners prior to the next commissioners’ meeting. He suggested the commissioners sign the signature page and he would replace the page entitled Section 01010, Part 1, Section D, “Installation”, as the first bullet, line one, ends abruptly regarding the relocation of conduit, and Mr. Berg will complete that. Mr. White asked if it would be unreasonable for the bids to be returned to Milford within two weeks and Mr. Boucher said he didn’t see why not because Mr. Berg felt comfortable with proceeding. Mr. White said that three bids would need to be returned, and the contract could be extended if the contractors take issue with the timeline.

Vice-Chairman White made the motion to send the bid documents regarding the Upgrades to the Curtis Well WellField, Electrical and Instrumentation Modifications, as prepared by Wright-Pierce with Superintendent Boucher’s suggested amendments regarding instrumentation, and that Section Two be completed and returned to the Milford Board of Commissioners by November 6, 2012. Commissioner Putnam seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Discussion/Information Items:

Septage Receiving Facility – Project Update – Mr. Boucher said the septage facility is in full operation and the septage haulers have been trained as they come in. The SCADA equipment is operating properly despite alarm checks appearing on the SCADA screen that require daily acknowledgement without paging the on-call operator. Weston & Sampson will schedule VSG personnel to be on-site to remedy the situation. The remedy the burning of the thermal tape due to exposure to direct sunshine, the control panel will be moved by a master electrician to eye-level, where it will be shaded by the existing roof. The second dual-party checks have not been cut yet. Mr. Jack Sheehy, Director of Financial Operations has scheduled this for Monday, October 29th. Mr. Boucher said that the NH DES inspections are complete and the Certificate of Substantial Completion documents were sent to Stantec and will be forwarded to the NH DES. Mr. Boucher learned during a phone conversation with a DES representative regarding expanding the acceptance of septage to towns beyond Milford and Wilton that the State must first obtain approval from the towns, then send certification forms to the Milford Board of Commissioners for approval, then he will notify the septage haulers of the expanded list of towns from which they may bring septage to the Milford facility. . He expects to receive that information tomorrow. Commissioner Putnam asked if this is a DES requirement. Mr. Boucher said yes.

Switchgear – Project Update – Superintendent Boucher said that he will forward to the commissioners the finalized ‘front end’ documentation that he expects to receive from SMR Design tomorrow, and that upon his review of the preliminary information emailed by SMR Design he does not recommend any

changes. Chairman Courage said that the SMR Design details are outside of his area of expertise and therefore he has no recommended changes. Mr. Boucher said that as insurance against a potential generator malfunction, a double lug would be installed onto switchgear panels to facilitate adaptation to a wide variety of generators and open ended cables, rather than there being a connection receptacle which had been an option previously considered. SMR Design will supply the bid list of contractors to receive the bid specifications. Commissioner Putnam said the Board of Commissioners shouldn't need to review.

Activities Report – The Commissioners reviewed the report.

Miscellaneous Water Utilities Department Project Updates – Mr. Boucher said he will obtain a Dram Cup roof quote. He said the second pump for the sewer collection system flushes is making noise and is awaiting a replacement. Commissioner Putnam asked if the Sewer Equipment Corporation will cover our labor to remove or replace equipment. Mr. Boucher said probably not. Mr. Boucher said he will be out of the office on Monday, October 29th, but may be reached by telephone. Mr. Boucher and Mr. Courage will meet to discuss the front end bid preparation. Financial reports received from the

Non-Public Session (RSA 91A:3 II (d) Land). Commissioner Putnam moved to enter into Non-Public Session at 7:32 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91:A3 II (d). Vice-Chairman White seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Commissioner Putnam made the motion to exit the Non-Public Session at 7:40 p.m. Chairman Courage seconded the motion. Chairman Courage announced the decision was made to approve and seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session regarding land held during the meeting of August 28, 2012.

Future Appointments/Meetings:

The next Water and Wastewater Commissioners' meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 20, 2012 at the Water Utilities Department, 564 Nashua Street.

Adjournment:

Vice-Chairman White made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Chairman Courage seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Robert E. Courage, Chairman

Date

Dale A. White, Vice-Chairman

Date

Michael E. Putnam, Commissioner

Date

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